(c) and (d) On the basis of proposals received from the concerned State Government, the ESI Corporation sanctions new ESI dispensaries/ hospitals as per norms and standard approved by the Corporation. There is no proposal from Government of Orissa pending with the ESI Corporation.

Setting up of model hospitals under ESI scheme

974. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up model hospitals in each State under the Employees State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the likely revenue implication and the time schedule for establishing the proposed hospitals;

(c) whether Government would consider establishing more than one model hospital under the Scheme in the States with higher population density and size; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ESI Corporation has decided to set up one Model Hospital in each State. Approximately a sum of Rs. 130 crore has been provided for these Hospitals. The Corporation has already taken over ESI Hospitals at Nacharam (AP), Ludhiana (Punjab), Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Chandigarh. The setting up of the remaining Model Hospitals is subject to consent of concerned State Governments.

(c) and (d) The Corporation for the present has decided to convert only one Hospital in each State for developing it into a Model Hospital.

E.P.F. contribution

975. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many companies particularly small and medium include their EPF contribution in the salary of employees thus forcing the employees to make contribution on behalf of the company;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to light and the action taken against the companies;

(c) whether Government would issue press release for awareness of the employees and general public; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) As and when cases are detected, suitable action is taken against establishment as per provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and schemes thereunder.

(c) and (d) Publicity compaigns are undertaken to familiarise employers and employees with various provisions of Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and schemes framed thereunder.

Extension of age limit under the Child Labour Act

976. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States like Andhra Pradesh desire to extend the age limit under the Child Labour Act to enable the child to get at least education upto SSC under compulsory education system; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for elimination of child labour and to educate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in 13 occupations and 57 processes. The employment conditions of children in other occupations and processes are regulated under the Act. Employers employing children in occupations and processes prohibited under the Act are liable for prosecution. The Central Government and State/UT Governments have enforcement machineries to enforce child-related provisions of the laws.